Ministry of Agriculture

2018/19 – 2020/21 SERVICE PLAN

February 2018

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Minister Accountability Statement

The *Ministry of Agriculture 2018/19 - 2020/21 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture
February 1, 2018

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Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Agriculture (the Ministry) is responsible for the production, marketing, processing and merchandising of agriculture and seafood products; the institution and carrying out of advisory, research, promotional, sustainability and adaptation, food safety or plant and animal health programs, projects or undertakings relating to agriculture and seafood; and the collection of information and preparation and dissemination of statistics relating to agriculture and seafood.

The legal and regulatory environment that guides the work of the Ministry includes 30 statutes which relate wholly or primarily to the Ministry. A complete list of legislation for which the Ministry is responsible is available at: http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/amr/amr/1135179498

Strategic Direction and Alignment with Government Priorities

Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC supports sustainable shared prosperity for a better BC by supporting BC's agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors, encouraging consumption of BC products and building resiliency within the sector. Agriculture is a key contributor to economic development and diversification; and is a main contributor to rural economic development by supporting province-wide job creation. The Agriculture and seafood sector creates economic and social benefits for Indigenous groups, has the potential to attract provincial investment and supports workforce development and skills training.

The Ministry is aligned with the Government's key priorities.

Government Priorities	Ministry of Agriculture Aligns with These Priorities By:
Making life more affordable	• Grow BC: Build sustainable production and help BC producers expand local food production (Goal 1) • Deliver a variety of programs to assist industry in increasing production, enhancing resiliency, furthering competitiveness and improving sustainability (Objective 1.3)
Delivering the services people count on	• Build capacity along the value chain of BC producers, processors and distributors to expand the availability of BC foods (Objective 2.1) • Accelerate the pace of innovation along the innovation continuum (research, pilot, commercialization and adoption) (Objective 2.2)
A strong, sustainable economy	• Buy BC: Build consumer awareness and demand and help local producers market their products to grow their businesses (Goal 3) • Build and leverage a strong, recognizable Buy BC brand to help producers and processors expand sales and ensure consumers can easily identify local food and beverages (Objective 3.1)

Strategic Context

BC has an enviable reputation as a leader in the production and processing of a wide range of safe, high-quality agriculture and seafood products, and enjoys a strong local domestic market driven by the largest population of the four western provinces. The Ministry works collaboratively with BC's agriculture and seafood industry to improve the sustainability and security of BC's food supply by improving production methods, enhancing biosecurity measures, and ensuring the highest standards in animal care and food safety.

Agriculture is a $14B industry that provides approximately 62,900 jobs in British Columbia. BC has Canada's most diverse sector, boasting 200 land and 100 sea commodities. Primary agriculture is represented by over 17,500 farms using 2.5M hectares of provincial land (less than 3% of the provincial land base), and the food processing sector is the second largest manufacturing industry in BC (fourth in Canada for food processing sales).

Agriculture helps to create economic diversification, as a prime opportunity for small/rural communities to create jobs, attract investment and promote new, value added opportunities and emerging sub-sectors (i.e., agritech, niche product development, circular economy, self-sustaining food systems, bio-economy).

Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC is a three-pillared strategy for both Provincial-level and agriculture specific mandate commitments to:

- support BC's agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors
- enhance rural economic development;
- encourage consumption of BC products; and
- develop strategic initiatives to advance the sector and ensure resiliency.

Grow BC, Feed BC, Buy BC creates a comprehensive, integrated and innovative approach to agriculture; enhancing job creation, accelerating economic growth and offers new supports, services and programs that will make the sector more competitive and environmentally sustainable while building jobs with an emphasis on rural economic development. A long-term plan for a made-in-BC food system has the potential to unlock sustainable prosperity across the entire Province.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Goal 1: *Grow BC*: Build sustainable production and help BC producers expand local food production

Objective 1.1: Help New Farmers Access Land

Sustainable production depends on having producers; and British Columbia's farmers are, on average, the oldest in Canada. The Ministry will address the significant barrier of access to land for those seeking to enter the industry through land matching, measures to incentivize landowners to make land available and succession planning for existing producers planning their retirement.

Key Strategies:

- Provide support to land matching and incentivize land availability; and
- Faciliate business, production and marketing knowledge transfer for new entrants. Identify and implement opportunities to support farm transitions through succession planning.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.1 Number of succession planning workshops held	4	5	5	5	5
1.2 Number of attendees at succession planning events	N/A	110	160	230	250

[1] Data Source: Census of Agriculture 2016
[2] Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Written succession plans identify family and/or non-family members as successors. Some of these successors may be new farmers and would benefit from the written succession plan which would increase certainty of access to farms and farmland. Completion or implementation of a succession plan is not possible to measure at this time. To measure the Ministry's success in providing educational services, we will track an increase in participation to our series of succession planning events.

Discussion:

Only a small fraction of farms in BC have succession plans (1,179 out of 17,528) despite the average age of farmers being 56.3 years. The Ministry will present succession planning workshops around the province in order to encourage producers to plan for transition.

Objective 1.2: Enhance Services and Support to Farmers

The Ministry will deliver a wide variety programs to facilitate farmers increasing their production while enhancing the sustainability of their operations.

Key Strategies:

- Add Extension Services focussed on Organics, Seeds and Forage;
- Expand service provided through AgriService BC as the primary point of contact for the Ministry;
- Continue to support on-farm environmental risk assessments (Environmental Farm Planning);
- Continue livestock protection (pilot program);
- Advise growers on integrated pest management practices; and
- Maintain Provincially operated veterinary and plant diagnostic laboratories for the timely and accurate diagnosis of production limiting, foreign and new and emerging diseases and pests.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.2 Cumulative Number Environmental Farm Plans	4,800	5,000	5,200	5,400	5,600

[1,2] Data Source: Agricultural Research and Development Corporation reports and agreements

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

The Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program aims to provide farm and ranch operators with the means to identify agri-environmental risks and opportunities. The goal of the EFP Program is to improve awareness of agri-environmental risks throughout the agriculture sector, with particular focus on high risk areas and/or issues identified in previous screening processes. The Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) Program is an on-farm incentive program to assist farm and ranch operations in taking action to mitigate risks related to climate adaptation, climate mitigation and environmental sustainability. Measuring the cumulative number of EFPs, BMPs and adaptation projects completed over time will demonstrate the extent to which the Ministry is fulfilling its responsibility to manage climate change risks, enhance productivity and contribute to sustainable economic growth; balancing ecology, environment and community development.

Discussion:

An Environmental Farm Plan is a voluntary, confidential assessment of opportunities to enhance environmental operations of BC farms and ranches. An assessment is conducted by the farm/ranch operator with the assistance of a trained planning advisor. The performance measure is the cumulative number of completed Environmental Farm Plans. These assessments are a pre-requisite to accessing funding to implement Beneficial Management Practices targeted at specific agri-environmental situations. Targets for 2018/19 – 2020/21 will be measured through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership fund.

Objective 1.3: Enhance Industry Renewal and Supports

The Ministry will deliver a variety of programs to assist industry in increasing production, enhancing resiliency, furthering competitiveness and improving sustainability.

Key Strategies:

- Support the development of priority sector strategies;
- Continue the delivery of the 2017 Canada/British Columbia Wildfire Recovery Initiative:
- Deliver the British Columbia AgriStability Enhancement Program to ensure farmers and ranchers can return to full production and survive the economic losses suffered in the Wildfire crisis of 2017;
- Support the adoption of beneficial management practices through the delivery of the Beneficial Management Program to improve environmental sustainability of the sector;
- Work with The Federal Government, other provinces, industry organizations and advisory groups to evaluate and adapt Business Risk Management programming to the evolving needs of agricultural producers;
- Support for business development and management awareness, market intelligence and capacity within the agriculture and seafood sector;
- Implement programs and initiatives that help the sector become more competitive;
- Support the renewal of fruit and nut production in response to disease or market demands for different varieties; and
- Provide the agriculture and seafood sector with timely information, market data and market intelligence reports to identify opportunities for the sector.

Discussion:

This objective is challenging to measure given its very broad nature and the fact that the Ministry's programs will necessarily shift over time in response to emerging issues and trends. Work is ongoing to determine an appropriate measure.

Objective 1.4: Preserve and prepare the Agricultural Land Reserve to support the future of Agriculture

Preservation of agricultural land is a Provincial priority overseen by the Agricultural Land Commission. The Minister of Agriculture is mandated with revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). In January 2018, the Minister established an independent Advisory Committee to engage with stakeholders and the general public and to provide Government with advice and guidance to support potential regulatory and administrative improvements.

The Ministry supports the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the preservation of farm land by promoting a positive urban/agricultural environment that helps ensure farmers can continue to farm in farming areas. The Ministry also works to keep ALR land in production and supports farmers looking to expand production. One aspect of support is the Ministry's Agricultural Land Use Inventory work that aims to ensure that good information is available about activities occurring on the ALR.

Key Strategies:

- Complete Agricultural Land Use Inventory (ALUI) process for the Agricultural Land Reserve by 2021; and
- Launch a Ministers' Advisory Committee to lead legislative and regulatory consultations on revitalizing the Agricultural Land Commission.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.4 Cumulative Hectares (Ha) of ALUI	3.0M Ha	3.5M Ha	3.9M Ha	4.3M Ha	4.6M Ha

[1.4] Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Agricultural Land Use Inventories (ALUIs) collect comprehensive data about land use and land cover on lands associated with agriculture and agricultural potential. These inventories (ALUIs) generate a wealth of information that facilitate support for the agriculture sector and inform agriculture practices, including:

- Informing the development of agriculturally supportive bylaws that support the economic development of the sector;
- Enabling accurate monitoring of changes in land use patterns and practices and estimation of farm vacancy rates and potential farming expansion in the Agricultural Land Reserve;
- Driving predictive models, such as the Agricultural Water Demand Model (AWDM) and Air Emission Model. The AWDM provides current and future water requirements necessary to establish dedicated agriculture water reserves and develop Water Sustainability Plans (WSP) under the Water Sustainability Act (WSA), as well as to support water use strategic planning at the regional and municipal levels;
- Improving our understanding of climate change impacts and associated risks and opportunities;
- Providing background information for a wide range of local government land use planning; and
- Helping advise emergency response for environmental disasters and animal health events.

Discussion:

Each ALUI project utilizes a unique mix of partnerships and resources, depending on the interest in the project and the identified need for the data. Local governments, non-profit organizations, and community interest groups provide support for projects in their local areas. In 2016/17, new technologies using satellite imagery were adopted for the more northern regions of the province. This allowed more hectares of ALUI to be completed than originally targeted.

Objective 1.5: Support Climate Adaptation and Mitigation

The Ministry has increased agriculture sector capacity to maintain competitiveness, manage risks, enhance productivity and contribute to economic growth through action on climate change and increasing environmental sustainability.

Key Strategies:

- Enhance nutrient management improvement activities;
- Work with industry, local governments, research organizations, and other government agencies to increase the capacity of BC farmers to adapt to climate change;
- Support the development and adoption of environmental and climate change adaptation and mitigation practices, processes, technologies and infrastructure;
- Provide programs and activities that identify and address critical agricultural environmental issues and enable adoption of Beneficial Management Practices supporting environmentally responsible production;
- Encourage innovations that reduce the environmental impact of agriculture and seafood production, including reducing air emissions and improving the management of processing byproducts; and
- Support the implementation of the *Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change* through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.5a Number farms using renewable energy systems	1,400	280	280	718	718
1.5b Number of regional adaptation projects completed	29	56	58	61	66

[1.5a] Data Source: Census of Agriculture 2016
[1.5b] Data Source: BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

These measures provide an indication of the response of farmers to environmental opportunities and risks on their farms.

Discussion:

The Ministry supports the development of innovative products, tools and processes to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. The Ministry is taking significant action to support the agriculture sector's adaptation to climate change. The regional and farm-level adaptation projects are being delivered collaboratively by industry, local governments and other partners through the BC Agriculture & Food Climate Action Initiative.

Regional adaptation strategies have been developed for key agricultural regions of BC, including the Cowichan, Delta, Peace, Cariboo, Fraser Valley and Okanagan regions. Priority actions from the strategies are developed into projects that provide collaborative solutions to regional issues. Project examples to date include farm-level toolkits and manuals, producer decision support tools, and projects that address key climate change risks such as wildfire, flooding, and water management. The Ministry will continue to develop strategies in additional key regions.

The Farm Adaptation Innovator Program supports applied research projects at a farm level to pilot, demonstrate, and share knowledge about farm practices and technologies that reduce weather related production risks. This program also plays a key role in the BC Agricultural Climate Adaptation

Research Network (ACARN), a network of academics, industry and government representatives launched in May 2017.

It is common for regional adaptation projects and farm-level projects to be delivered over multiple years, to accommodate their large scope, multi-partner stakeholder nature, or the need to include multiple production seasons. For this reason, there are typically larger numbers of projects completed in the last two years of the five year funding cycles (2013 - 2018 and 2018 - 2023) than in the earlier years. Most of the adaptation projects funded through the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership* will not be completed until 2021-2023.

Objective 1.6: Enhance Seafood and Aquaculture

Maximize the socio-economic benefits of aquaculture, commercial and marine recreational fisheries while balancing environment sustainability objectives, and supporting a diversified economy. Engage actively in government-to-government discussions to address the issues and concerns about fish farms in First Nations' traditional territories, based on free, prior and informed consent.

Key Strategies:

- Develop climate adaptation strategies for shellfish aquaculture;
- Support international treaty and trade negotiations;
- Support government-to-government discussions regarding fish farms in First Nations traditional territories;
- Support national policy and program development for the seafood sector; and
- Support stability of the aquaculture industry through species and systems diversification, innovation and industry outreach.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.6 Seafood landed value	$1.17	$1.20	$1.24	$1.28	$1.32

[1.6] Data Source: Statistics Canada

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

This measure shows growth in annual revenues in the seafood sector by monitoring growth in the landed value of seafood. Landed value is the value of cargo when it reaches its' destination following a voyage. The landed value may be less than the value of the cargo when it was shipped originally, especially in the case of perishable goods.

Discussion:

Revenue growth is an indicator of the contribution of BC's seafood industry to the provincial economy. Targets are based on the average annual rate of change in revenues. Since these revenues are driven by market conditions, they are not wholly under the Ministry's control.

Objective 1.7: Protect animal, plant and human health

The Ministry, in partnership with federal, provincial and local government agencies, delivers services and initiatives to manage food safety, and plant and animal health risks. These services protect public health, contribute to maintaining public trust and support consumer confidence domestically and internationally in BC agriculture and seafood products.

Key Strategies:

- Work with the federal government and other provincial/territorial partners to implement the Plant and Animal Health Strategy;
- Continue to work with government and industry groups to identify and implement traceability and biosecurity strategies that will reduce the risk of animal disease outbreaks;
- Engage industry and other federal and provincial agencies to update the BC Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan;
- Promote industry adoption of initiatives to enhance biosecurity in BC;
- Implement and deliver comprehensive provincial-level programs for animal, fish and plant health that manage the risks of animal and fish disease, plant pests and invasive species, and contribute to national programs;
- Maintain enforcement to prevent unlawful slaughter of animals intended for human consumption, as well as unlawful seafood processing;
- Review provincial slaughter capacity to ensure that BC's local producers have access to required services and maintain high standards of food safety and quality for BC meat products;
- Deliver plant health management and integrated pest management programs and services to promote healthy and viable crops;
- Provide training for safe and appropriate use of pesticides and enable the registration of pesticides; and
- Provide financial incentive through cost-share funding to implement practices and systems, such as livestock tag reading infrastructure, to address market and regulatory demands.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
1.7 Number livestock farms and co-mingling sites registered under BC Premises ID Program	2,837	3,540	4,080	4,680	5,340

[17] Data Source: BC Premises ID System – Status Reporting

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Increasing the number of livestock farms and co-mingling sites registered in the BC Premises Identification Program (BCPID or Premises ID) will enhance the effectiveness of the livestock traceability system. This will lead to better management of animal health and food safety issues and natural disasters, ultimately supporting market access, competitiveness and consumer confidence.

Discussion:

The BCPID is one of the pillars of livestock traceability and links livestock and poultry to land locations or premises. The BCPID Program was established to support the planning, control and

prevention of foreign animal disease outbreaks, such as Avian Influenza in poultry or Bovine Tuberculosis in livestock. BCPID is also used as an early warning system to notify animal owners of an emergency such as flood or fire that could affect their animals or operations. The majority of regulated pork, poultry and dairy cattle premises have been registered through collaboration with industry boards and associations. Among non-regulated producers, the Ministry is using a range of strategies to encourage voluntary registration, including collaboration with commodity associations and streamlining the application process.

Several factors, such as market and regulatory demands, are expected to cause a significant increase in registration rates. In preparation of this influx of registrations, a more sophisticated premises identification system was launched in March 2016, which will enable livestock operators to quickly register their premises online.

The target for 2017/18 has been increased from that of previous year's service plan because the previous target was already surpassed largely due to the unexpected boost of premises registrations during the 2017 summer wildfire events. 130 emergency registrations were processed as part of the response effort. The Premises ID number was used as a re-entry permit for the RCMP to allow livestock producers to return to the evacuation zone to care for their livestock.

Targets for the next three years have been increased in anticipation of the introduction and implementation of the federal livestock traceability requirements, which may require mandatory premises identification

Goal 2: *Feed BC: Build the value of and access to BC food*

Objective 2.1: Build capacity along the value chain of BC producers, processors and distributors to expand the availability of BC foods

The Ministry is working to deliver on the BC government commitment to increase the use of BC-grown and processed foods in hospitals and other government long-term care facilities. In order to capitalize on opportunities for government facilities to increase the purchase of BC foods, the Ministry is working with government and industry partners to match the food needs of these facilities with BC food production.

Key Strategies:

- Work with partners across government, including health and education sectors, to identify opportunities for government institutions to increase the purchase of BC foods; and
- Provide education and training to BC producers, processors and distributors on the requirements for institution ready foods (e.g., hospital and health care institutions).

Performance Measure(s)		2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
2.1a	Annual value of domestic purchases of agriculture and seafood products	$6.2 billion	$6.5 billion	$6.8 billion	$7.2 billion	$7.6 billion
2.1b	Number of knowledge transfer events that support the purchase of BC food by BC government facilities	0	3	6	9	12

[2.1a] Data Source: Statistics Canada
[2.1b] Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Monitoring the annual value of domestic purchases of agriculture and seafood products will determine the baseline in which to measure the implementation of strategies which increase the purchase of BC foods. Tracking knowledge transfer events will allow the Ministry to determine the educational needs of BC producers, processors and distributers.

Discussion:
The Ministry will measure the annual value of domestic purchases of agriculture and seafood products, and increase the number of knowledge transfer activities that support this. Tracking the number of BC producers and processors supplying products to government facilities will be considered in the future as a performance measure.

Objective 2.2: Accelerate the pace of innovation along the innovation continuum (research, pilot, commercialization and adoption)

The Ministry encourages growth in the agriculture and seafood sector through programs that foster innovation, including the development of new products, processes or technologies that will ultimately be market-ready. Innovation projects are designed to enhance the ability of the sector to research, develop, pilot, commercialize and/or adopt technologies to enhance competitiveness; accelerate business development; and access and participate in knowledge-transfer. BC's approach to developing a BC Food Innovation Centre is intended to leverage sector / regional diversity to build competitive linkages across the supply chain and the innovation continuum.

Key Strategies:

- Support activities that enhance the ability of the sector to research, develop, pilot, commercialize and/or adopt new products, processes or technologies; and
- Develop a BC Food Innovation Centre / regional Aghub model that considers both physical and virtual components.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
2.2c Cumulative number regional innovation centres supported	0	1	2	3	4
2.2d Cumulative number innovations commercialized	N/A	20	25	30	40

[2.2c] Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture
[2.1d] Data Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Monitoring the cumulative number of regional innovation centres supported by the Ministry over the coming years will help demonstrate momentum with the regional Aghub model. Monitoring the cumulative number of innovation projects, funded by the Ministry, that become commercialized will help indicate the extent to which the Innovation Program is meeting its objective (i.e., to support and accelerate projects that lead to commercialization of innovation products, processes, practices and technologies across BC).

Discussion:

The cumulative number of regional innovation centres supported links to the Minister's mandate letter commitment to develop a BC Food Innovation Centre, which is being pursued by way of an Aghub model. Therefore, this performance measure is new and does not have a relevant baseline. It is anticipated that by 2020/21, the Ministry will have supported a total of four regional innovation centres across the province.

The cumulative number of innovations that become commercialized links to the overarching objective of the Innovation Program, which is to accelerate projects from late-stage research through to commercialization. Under *Growing Forward 2*, which concludes March 31, 2018, approximately 20 innovation projects funded under the Innovation Program resulted in commercialization (i.e., target of 20 for 2017/18). It is anticipated that approximately five additional innovation projects funded under *Growing Forward 2* will reach commercialization by 2018/19 and another five by 2019/20. By 2020/21, at which time the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership* (effective April 1, 2018) will be in its third year of operation, it is anticipated that the cumulative count of innovation projects reaching the commercialization phase will be 40.

Goal 3: *Buy BC: Build consumer awareness and demand and help local producers market their products to grow their businesses*

Objective 3.1: Build and leverage a strong, recognizable Buy BC brand to help producers and processors expand sales and ensure consumers can easily identify local food and beverages.

The Ministry is committed to delivering an enhanced Buy BC marketing program to build consumer awareness and demand and help local producers market their products. A key component of the

program is a strong Buy BC brand identifier that helps consumers recognize and seek out BC products. Making the choice to buy BC food and beverages directly supports local farmers, producers and processors, strengthens communities and ensures that future generations of British Columbians can depend on a safe, secure supply of local food.

Key Strategies:

- Enhance consumer recognition of the Buy BC brand through the delivery of Buy BC communication and promotional activities and resources, including an annual Buy BC: EAT DRINK LOCAL campaign;
- Support Buy BC cost-shared partnership activities to enhance the ability of BC's agriculture and seafood sector to promote local food and beverages to consumers across the province; and
- Build the local food literacy of BC consumers through the delivery of resources and activities that promote the availability of local food in BC and the importance of BC's agriculture and seafood sector to local communities, the local economy and B.C's long-term food security.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
3.1 Annual value of domestic purchases of agriculture and seafood products	$6.2 billion	$6.5 billion	$6.8 billion	$7.2 billion	$7.6 billion

[3.1] Data Source: Statistics Canada

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

Buy BC is intended to encourage the purchase of BC agriculture and seafood commodities by British Columbians, through enhanced communication, advertising and promotional activities, cost-shared funding programs and local food literacy initiatives. Monitoring the annual value of domestic purchases over time will help identify whether the program is successfully impacting the food purchasing behaviours of consumers within the province.

Discussion:

This performance measure tracks sales and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for over 200 primary agriculture products and 100 species of fish, shellfish and marine plants that are produced in BC. In 2016, BC's agriculture and seafood sales reached $14 billion, up 6.4 per cent over 2015 and total estimated agriculture and seafood GDP, at $2.5 billion, rose 4.6 per cent over 2015.

Objective 3.2: Execute the Ministry's international marketing strategy to help producers and processors expand sales in priority export markets.

The Ministry supports the expansion of export sales through the delivery of a suite of market development programs and services aimed at ensuring the agriculture and seafood sector has the knowledge, skills and resources to effectively capitalize on emerging market opportunities. Expanding international markets contributes to sustainable, long-term growth for BC's agriculture and seafood sector and economic growth and job creation across the province.

Key Strategies:

- Deliver market development initiatives to expand export sales of BC's agriculture and seafood products to international markets, including the U.S., China, Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong, in collaboration with the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology;
- Support cost-shared partnership activities to enhance the ability of BC's agriculture and seafood sector to access and expand international markets;
- Support marketing skills capacity building, market information and intelligence, and strategic market development planning initiatives that enhance the ability of BC's agriculture and seafood sector to identify, analyze and respond to emerging market opportunities; and
- Continue to expand the B.C Agriculture and seafood Export-Ready Business Catalogue to help facilitate the development of new trade relationships between BC exporters and foreign buyers.

Performance Measure(s)	2016 Baseline	2017/18 Forecast	2018/19 Target	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target
3.2 Annual value of international agriculture and seafood exports	$3.8 billion	$4.2 billion	$4.4 billion	$4.5 billion	$4.7 billion

[3.2] Data Source: Statistics Canada

Linking Performance Measures to Objectives:

This performance target demonstrates the value of BC's international marketing strategy and ability of producers and processors to export to priority markets, by measuring the overall value of BC's agriculture and seafood exports.

Discussion:

In 2016, BC exported $3.8 billion worth of agriculture and seafood products. Agriculture and seafood products contributed about one-third and seafood exports contribute the remaining third. This performance measure tracks approximately 700 BC agriculture and seafood product exports to 160 markets, including those destined for BC's top five markets: the United States, China, Japan, Hong Kong and South Korea.

Resource Summary

Core Business Area	2017/18 Restated Estimates[1]	2018/19 Estimates[3]	2019/20 Plan	2020/21 Plan
Operating Expenses ($000)				
Agriculture Science and Policy[2]	16,343	18,866	19,656	19,656
Business Development[2]	43,089	48,414	50,899	51,749
BC Farm Industry Review Board	1,214	1,233	1,238	1,238
Executive and Support Services	6,757	6,846	6,854	6,854
Sub-Total	67,403	75,359	78,647	79,497
Agricultural Land Commission	4,549	4,584	4,599	4,599
Production Insurance Special Account	13,200	13,200	13,200	13,200
Total	**85,152**	**93,143**	**96,446**	**97,296**
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)				
Executive and Support Services	540	1,191	1,191	926
Total	**540**	**1,191**	**1,191**	**926**

[1] For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2017/18 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2018/19 Estimates.

[2] The budget increase is to support the Grow BC, Feed BC and Buy BC programs.

[3] Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates.

Appendix A: Ministry Contact Information

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Kelowna
Unit 200 1690 Powick Road, V1X 7G5
Ph.: (250) 861-7211
Fax: (250) 861-7490
Toll free: 1-888-332-3352

Kelowna – Hardy Place
200 – 1500 Hardy Street, V1Y 8H2
Ph.: (250) 712-3797
Fax: (250) 712-3269
Toll free: 1-877-343-2767 (AgriStability)

Oliver
Suite 201 583 Fairview Road, V0H 1T0
Ph.: (250) 498-5250 or 5251
Fax: (250) 498-4952
Toll free: 1-888-812-8811

Prince George
2000 South Ospika Boulevard, V2N 4W5
Ph.: (250) 614-7400
Fax: (250) 614-7435
Toll free: 1-800-334-3011

Smithers
3333 Tatlow Road, V0J 2N0
Ph.: (250) 847-6379
Fax: (250) 847-6353
Toll free: 1-888-540-8611

Vernon
2501 – 14th Avenue, V1T 8Z1
Ph.: (250) 260-4610
Fax: (250) 260-4602
Toll free: 1-877-702-5585

Williams Lake
300 640 Borland Street, V2G 4T1
Ph.: (250) 398-4500
Fax: (250) 398-4688
Toll free: 1-800-474-6133

Agricultural Land Commission
133-4940 Canada Way, Burnaby BC, V5G 4K6
Ph.: (604) 660-7000
Fax: (604) 660-7033
Email: ALCBurnaby@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca

BC Farm Industry Review Board
780 Blanshard Street, Victoria BC, V8W 9B5
Ph.: (250) 356-8945
Fax: (250) 356-5131
Email: firb@gov.bc.ca

Appendix B: Agricultural Land Commission

Purpose of the Commission

The Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is the independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in BC. The ALC is responsible for administering the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), a provincial land use zone where agriculture is the primary land use taking place on the limited agricultural land base. The ALR is based on the biophysical resource base (soil and climate) where lands are capable of growing crops. As an administrative tribunal operating at arm's-length from government, the ALC is accountable to the legislature through the Minister of Agriculture. Its operations are funded by a vote of the legislature.

In general, an administrative tribunal is a specialized government agency established under provincial legislation to implement legislative policy. The ALC is expected to exercise its role in a non-partisan manner and Commission members must faithfully, honestly and impartially perform their duties.

The ALC's goals, objectives and strategies are guided by its legislative mandate as set out in s.6 and s.4.3 of the ALC Act as noted below.

The ALC's mandate as set out in s.6 of the Agricultural Land Commission Act is:

- To preserve agricultural land;
- To encourage farming on agricultural land in collaboration with other communities of interest; and
- To encourage local governments, First Nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.

Appendix C: British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board

Purpose of the Board:

The British Columbia Farm Industry Review Board (the Board) is an independent administrative tribunal that operates at arm's-length from government. As the regulatory tribunal responsible for the general supervision of BC regulated marketing boards and commissions, the Board provides oversight, policy direction and decisions to ensure orderly marketing and to protect the public interest. In its adjudicative capacities, the Board provides a less formal system than the court for resolving disputes in a timely and cost effective way. The Board consists of a part-time board of up to ten members and nine full time equivalent staff positions and is accountable to government for its administrative operations.

The Board's performance measures have changed in 2017/18 to 2019/20 Service Plan for streamlining and clarification purposes. The Board will be further reviewing its Service Plan measures in 2017/18 to determine if additional refinements are warranted.

The Board's statutorily mandated responsibilities are established in the *Natural Products Marketing (BC) Act*, the *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*, the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*, and are supported by the *Administrative Tribunals Act*. They include:

- Supervising BC's regulated marketing boards and commissions;
- Being a signatory to formal federal-provincial cooperation agreements in regulated marketing;
- Hearing appeals of regulated marketing board and commission orders, decisions and determinations;
- Hearing appeals related to certain animal custody and cost decisions of the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals;
- Hearing farm practices complaints from persons disturbed by odour, noise, dust or other disturbances arising from agriculture or certain aquaculture operations; and
- Conducting farm practices studies.

The Board has adjudicative independence in its decision-making, and through its strategic plan and other documents, establishes goals, objectives, strategies and performance measures necessary to achieve its administrative role as a public sector agency, including cost-consciousness, accountability, appropriate compensation, service, respect and integrity. Further information about the Board may be found at www.gov.bc.ca/bcfarmindustryreviewboard